

PINK BOLLWORM PROGRAM – WEEKLY REPORT

36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COTTON GROWERS



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Pink Bollworm Activities

Palo Verde and Imperial Valleys:

Native pink bollworm catches were up this week by 57% vs. last week in Imperial Valley and increased by 19% in the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley area. The traps from the “highway lines” were up 215% overall with the traps along Interstate 8 having the biggest change with a 452% increase over last week. The 4th in-field generation is predicted to occur on or about 9/5. Agricultural Pest Control Specialist Jodi Brigman is preparing for boll collections for the Bt resistance study. Fields with “imbedded refuge” that have a history of large Pink Bollworm populations have been selected as candidates for boll collection. Jodi Brigman is testing bolls from the portions of these fields where conventional and Bollgard® cottons are being grown to verify the varieties before bolls are collected.

San Joaquin Valley:

Five native pink bollworm moths were trapped this week. Two were in a “new” section in Tulare County near Tipton, where no natives have been found since 1990. The section directly south has had single native finds in each of the last two years. The other three were trapped in Kern County. One of the Kern County finds was in a section, where oddly enough, single finds were made on 09/24/02 and 09/24/01. Find # 5 in Kern County is just south and east of Buttonwillow. It is adjacent to two sections with two natives each in 2002. One of the sections also had finds in each of the last four years. The third Kern County find is located southwest of Bakersfield and has a neighboring section to the north with single native finds in each of the last five years.

Sterile moth releases remain consistent with 13.6 million released this week. This brings the season total to 196 million sterile moths released. The Visalia Identification Lab inspected 931 traps containing 25,302 sterile moths and 5 native moths. The traps submitted were up 18% and sterile recaptures were up about 54% compared to last week.

Sacramento Valley:

The start date for Pink Bollworm Program mapping and trapping in the Sacramento Valley will be September 8th.